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## Lower Settlement (of Midway)

This settlement of early pioneers in Provo River Valley was located, like the Upper Settlement, on Snake Creek, but at its lower end, near the present H. Fred Price farm.

This original area of settling was determined by the fact that irrigation water was available from the Snake Creek.

A few families congregated in the area and started to settle in.

By 1864,20 families were located here and David Van Wagoner was appointed Presiding Elder by the Presiding Bishop Joseph Stacy Murdock of Heber, Utah.

This settlement was started about 1859 or 1860, and continued till 1866, when Indian raids and depridations threatened their survival.

In 1866, at the suggestion of the Provo River Valley LDS Presiding Elder Joseph Stacy Murdock, the 2 settlements were urged to come together and build a log cabin fort arranged on what is now Midway Town Square.

Since this was about midway between each settlement, it soon became known as  $^{\prime\prime}$  Midway  $^{\prime\prime}$  as we know it today.

Please refer to the accompanying map of that square drawn by and recorded in the book "Under Wasatch Skies", by DUP,

Later Bill Whitaker sketched a visual picture of what it looked like.

From this nucleus, and with the similarity of Midway alpine appearance with its mountainous terrain and at the suggestion of Brigham Young, many Swiss people settled in Midway, Utah.

It has since become known as the only true Swiss Village in Western USA. They celebrate a \*Christmas Village and a fall festival of "Swiss Days" on each Christmas and Labor Day Weekend, respectively.

- REF: 1. "Under Wasatch Skies" p. 19-23
  - 2. Home made map showing Upper and Lower Settlements
  - 3. "Simon H Epperson, Pioneer", by Sidney Epperson, 1927, p.20

EEF: 1. "Under Lasztch Skies" p. 10-23 2. Home Rade map showing 'Sperand Lower Settlements 3. "Simon H Epperson, Pionser" by Sidney Epperson, 1927, p.20